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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/068,920	02/07/2002	Richard J. Barker	GB 010184	9408

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EXAMINER

RILEY, SHAWN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2838

DATE MAILED: 06/16/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/068,920

Applicant(s)

BARKER, RICHARD J.

Examiner

Shawn Riley

Art Unit

2838

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 February 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5 and 7.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Drawings

1. The drawing(s) is(are) objected to because they fail to clearly indicate in (figure(s) 1 and 3) what MCT, SCT, s1, s2, S1, S2,, g1, g2, Vr, Vs, R1, CS1, RG, MDD, Vs, CS2, (i.e., all of the labeled elements of the abstract) are. Without indication it is not quickly clear as to what the elements are and they are not explanatory to a reader as a quick method of determining the general background of the invention. Further, applicant is required to reconfigure the drawings (figure 1 and 3) to provide a clearer view of the invention. Specifically, the connection of the two diodes is not shown/clear in the drawings. The examiner understands that these figures (1 and 3) are 'busy', nonetheless they are unclear as shown. Further, the connections of the wiring is unclear, e.g., where CS1 overlaps/connects with s2 (the examiner can not tell from the drawings. Also, where is the input power, where is it connected to, where is the output? Correction is required.

See MPEP 608.02 subparagraph (o) -- **Legends**

Suitable descriptive legends may be used, or may be required by the Examiner, where necessary for understanding of the drawing, subject to approval by the Office. They should contain as few words as possible.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the specification fails to incorporate section titles. Appropriate correction is required.

3. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "**comprises**", "**means**", and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.¹ Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

4. The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," "What is disclosed", "The invention relates to", "The present invention provides", "According to the invention", "The objective of the invention", or like phrases, etc. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

5. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. E.g., Current Sensing IC with Resistive Sensing.

¹ Note that the abstract makes excellent use of labeling by clearly identifying important elements of the drawings. While this does not change the objection to the drawings, it is hoped that while applicant corrects the errors indicated in the abstract the applicant will maintain the excellent labeling of the drawing elements.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-10 are allowable over the prior art of record.
2. As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's response must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(b) and section 707.07(a) of the M.P.E.P.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: No prior art uncovered anticipates or renders obvious applicant(s) claimed ic having a main current carrying transistor section integrated with a sense current carrying transistor with control means including comparison means for comparing a reference voltage defining a current limit value with the voltage across the current sensing resistance and providing a first control signal adjustment circuit means coupled to the first control signal and to the voltage across the current sensing resistance and arranged to provide the second control signal such that the second control signal is effective to maintain the voltage between the control electrode and the second main electrode of the main transistor section equal to the voltage between the control electrode and the second main electrode of a sense transistor section.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Examiner Riley whose telephone number is 703.305.3487. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 7:30-6:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. The Examiner's Supervisor is Mike Sherry who can be reached at 703.308.1680. Any inquiry about a case's location, retrieval of a case, receipt of an amendment into a case or sending in correspondence to a case via fax should be directed to 2800's Customer Service Center at 703.306.3329. The fax phone number for this Group is 703.305.7731 or 7732. Any inquiry of a general nature of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is 703.308.1782.



Shawn Riley
Primary Examiner